

heart. PRO polypeptides testing positive in this assay are expected to be useful for the therapeutic treatment of various cardiac insufficiency disorders.

Cardiac myocytes from 1-day old Harlan Sprague Dawley rats were obtained. Cells ($180\ \mu\text{l}$ at $7.5 \times 10^4/\text{ml}$, serum $<0.1\%$, freshly isolated) are added on day 1 to 96-well plates previously coated with DMEM/F12 + 4% FCS. Test samples containing the test PRO polypeptide ($20\ \mu\text{l}/\text{well}$) are added directly to the wells on day 1. PGF ($20\ \mu\text{l}/\text{well}$) is then added on day 2 at a final concentration of $10^{-6}\ \text{M}$. The cells are then stained on day 4 and visually scored on day 5. Visual scores are based on cell size, wherein cells showing no increase in size as compared to negative controls are scored 0.0, cells showing a small to moderate increase in size as compared to negative controls are scored 1.0 and cells showing a large increase in size as compared to negative controls are scored 2.0. A score of 1.0 or greater is considered positive.

No PBS is included, since calcium concentration is critical for assay response. Plates are coated with DMEM/F12 plus 4% FCS ($200\ \mu\text{l}/\text{well}$). Assay media included: DMEM/F12 (with 2.44 gm bicarbonate), $10\ \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ transferrin, $1\ \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ insulin, $1\ \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ aprotinin, $2\ \text{mmol}/\text{L}$ glutamine, $100\ \text{U}/\text{ml}$ penicillin G, $100\ \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ streptomycin. Protein buffer containing mannitol (4%) gave a positive signal (score 3.5) at 1/10 (0.4%) and 1/100 (0.04%), but not at 1/1000 (0.004%). Therefore the test sample buffer containing mannitol is not run.

The following PRO polypeptides tested positive in this assay: PRO195.

EXAMPLE 121: Guinea Pig Vascular Leak (Assays 32 and 51)

This assay is designed to determine whether PRO polypeptides of the present invention show the ability to induce vascular permeability. Polypeptides testing positive in this assay are expected to be useful for the therapeutic treatment of conditions which would benefit from enhanced vascular permeability including, for example, conditions which may benefit from enhanced local immune system cell infiltration.

Hairless guinea pigs weighing 350 grams or more were anesthetized with Ketamine ($75\text{--}80\ \text{mg}/\text{kg}$) and $5\ \text{mg}/\text{kg}$ Xylazine intramuscularly. Test samples containing the PRO polypeptide or a physiological buffer without the test polypeptide are injected into skin on the back of the test animals with $100\ \mu\text{l}$ per injection site intradermally. There were approximately 16-24 injection sites per animal. One ml of Evans blue dye (1% in PBS) is then injected intracardially. Skin vascular permeability responses to the compounds (*i.e.*, blemishes at the injection sites of injection) are visually scored by measuring the diameter (in mm) of blue-colored leaks from the site of injection at 1 and 6 hours post administration of the test materials. The mm diameter of blueness at the site of injection is observed and recorded as well as the severity of the vascular leakage. Blemishes of at least 5 mm in diameter are considered positive for the assay when testing purified proteins, being indicative of the ability to induce vascular leakage or permeability. A response greater than 7 mm diameter is considered positive for conditioned media samples. Human VEGF at $0.1\ \mu\text{g}/100\ \mu\text{l}$ is used as a positive control, inducing a response of 15-23 mm diameter.

The following PRO polypeptides tested positive in this assay: PRO200.

EXAMPLE 122: Skin Vascular Permeability Assay (Assay 64)

This assay shows that certain polypeptides of the invention stimulate an immune response and induce inflammation by inducing mononuclear cell, eosinophil and PMN infiltration at the site of injection of the animal.

Compounds which stimulate an immune response are useful therapeutically where stimulation of an immune response is beneficial. This skin vascular permeability assay is conducted as follows. Hairless guinea pigs weighing 350 grams or more are anesthetized with ketamine (75-80 mg/Kg) and 5 mg/Kg xylazine intramuscularly (IM). A sample of purified polypeptide of the invention or a conditioned media test sample is injected intradermally onto the backs of the test animals with 100 μ l per injection site. It is possible to have about 10-30, preferably about 16-24, injection sites per animal. One μ l of Evans blue dye (1% in physiologic buffered saline) is injected intracardially. Blemishes at the injection sites are then measured (mm diameter) at 1 hr and 6 hr post injection. Animals were sacrificed at 6 hrs after injection. Each skin injection site is biopsied and fixed in formalin. The skins are then prepared for histopathologic evaluation. Each site is evaluated for inflammatory cell infiltration into the skin. Sites with visible inflammatory cell inflammation are scored as positive. Inflammatory cells may be neutrophilic, eosinophilic, monocytic or lymphocytic. At least a minimal perivascular infiltrate at the injection site is scored as positive, no infiltrate at the site of injection is scored as negative.

The following polypeptide tested positive in this assay: PRO200, PRO362 and PRO1031.

EXAMPLE 123: Induction of c-fos in Cortical Neurons (Assay 83)

This assay is designed to determine whether PRO polypeptides show the ability to induce c-fos in cortical neurons. PRO polypeptides testing positive in this assay would be expected to be useful for the therapeutic treatment of nervous system disorders and injuries where neuronal proliferation would be beneficial.

Cortical neurons are dissociated and plated in growth medium at 10,000 cells per well in 96 well plates. After approximately 2 cellular divisions, the cells are treated for 30 minutes with the PRO polypeptide or nothing (negative control). The cells are then fixed for 5 minutes with cold methanol and stained with an antibody directed against phosphorylated CREB. mRNA levels are then calculated using chemiluminescence. A positive in the assay is any factor that results in at least a 2-fold increase in c-fos message as compared to the negative controls.

The following PRO polypeptides tested positive in this assay: PRO200.

EXAMPLE 124: Mouse Kidney Mesangial Cell Proliferation Assay (Assay 92)

This assay shows that certain polypeptides of the invention act to induce proliferation of mammalian kidney mesangial cells and, therefore, are useful for treating kidney disorders associated with decreased mesangial cell function such as Berger disease or other nephropathies associated with Schönlein-Henoch purpura, celiac disease, dermatitis herpetiformis or Crohn disease. The assay is performed as follows. On day one, mouse kidney mesangial cells are plated on a 96 well plate in growth media (3:1 mixture of Dulbecco's modified Eagle's medium and Ham's F12 medium, 95% fetal bovine serum, 5% supplemented with 14 mM HEPES) and grown overnight. On day 2, PRO polypeptides are diluted at 2 concentrations (1% and 0.1%) in serum-free medium and added to the cells. Control samples are serum-free medium alone. On day 4, 20 μ l of the Cell Titer 96 Aqueous one solution reagent (Progema) was added to each well and the colorimetric reaction was allowed to proceed for 2 hours. The absorbance (OD) is then measured at 490 nm. A positive in the assay is anything that gives an absorbance reading which is at least 15% above the control reading.

The following polypeptide tested positive in this assay: PRO200, PRO363, PRO731, PRO534, PRO866 and PRO1031.

EXAMPLE 125: Pericyte c-Fos Induction (Assay 93)

This assay shows that certain polypeptides of the invention act to induce the expression of c-fos in pericyte cells and, therefore, are useful not only as diagnostic markers for particular types of pericyte-associated tumors but also for giving rise to antagonists which would be expected to be useful for the therapeutic treatment of pericyte-associated tumors. Specifically, on day 1, pericytes are received from VEC Technologies and all but 5 ml of media is removed from flask. On day 2, the pericytes are trypsinized, washed, spun and then plated onto 96 well plates. On day 7, the media is removed and the pericytes are treated with 100 μ l of PRO polypeptide test samples and controls (positive control = DME+5% serum +/- PDGF at 500 ng/ml; negative control = protein 32). Replicates are averaged and SD/CV are determined. Fold increase over Protein 32 (buffer control) value indicated by chemiluminescence units (RLU) luminometer reading verses frequency is plotted on a histogram. Two-fold above Protein 32 value is considered positive for the assay. ASY Matrix: Growth media = low glucose DMEM = 20% FBS + 1X pen strep + 1X fungizone. Assay Media = low glucose DMEM +5% FBS.

The following polypeptides tested positive in this assay: PRO200.

EXAMPLE 126: Chondrocyte Re-differentiation Assay (Assay 110)

This assay shows that certain polypeptides of the invention act to induce redifferentiation of chondrocytes, therefore, are expected to be useful for the treatment of various bone and/or cartilage disorders such as, for example, sports injuries and arthritis. The assay is performed as follows. Porcine chondrocytes are isolated by overnight collagenase digestion of articular cartilage of metacarpophalangeal joints of 4-6 month old female pigs. The isolated cells are then seeded at 25,000 cells/cm² in Ham F-12 containing 10% FBS and 4 μ g/ml gentamycin. The culture media is changed every third day and the cells are then seeded in 96 well plates at 5,000 cells/well in 100 μ l of the same media without serum and 100 μ l of the test PRO polypeptide, 5 nM staurosporin (positive control) or medium alone (negative control) is added to give a final volume of 200 μ l/well. After 5 days of incubation at 37°C, a picture of each well is taken and the differentiation state of the chondrocytes is determined. A positive result in the assay occurs when the redifferentiation of the chondrocytes is determined to be more similar to the positive control than the negative control.

The following polypeptide tested positive in this assay: PRO200, PRO285, PRO337, PRO526, PRO362, PRO363, PRO531, PRO1083, PRO862, PRO733, PRO1017, PRO792, PRO788, PRO1008, PRO1075, PRO725 and PRO1031.

EXAMPLE 127: Fetal Hemoglobin Induction in an Erythroblastic Cell Line (Assay 107)

This assay is useful for screening PRO polypeptides for the ability to induce the switch from adult hemoglobin to fetal hemoglobin in an erythroblastic cell line. Molecules testing positive in this assay are expected to be useful for therapeutically treating various mammalian hemoglobin-associated disorders such as the various thalassemias. The assay is performed as follows. Erythroblastic cells are plated in standard growth